

## **Fort Duvernette Rehabilitation Project**

**04 October 2010**

**Fort Duvernette, St. VINCENT:** The National Trust of St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) has awarded Sea Operations (SVG) Ltd. the contract to carry out the required works under the Fort Duvernette Rehabilitation Project.

The Embassy of Finland to the Eastern Caribbean in Caracas, Venezuela is funding the project through its Diplomatic relations with SVG. The initial project agreement was signed by Ambassador of Finland, H.E. Mr Pasi Patokallio, Project Director, Johanna Kivimaki and Chair of SVG National Trust, Louise Mitchell Joseph in June 2010.

Fort Duvernette was transferred to the SVG National Trust in 1971. It is a cultural heritage site with a unique ecosystem, being a roosting site for Frigate, Tropicbirds and many other birds. The islet is also rich in flora and fauna including iguanas, butterflies and lizards. Unfortunately, the site does not currently meet health and safety standards for visitors and thus cannot be utilised properly by those wishing to visit the Fort.

Work on the site is to commence in November and is anticipated to open fully in the New Year with the needed repair work, adding yet another fantastic heritage tourism product of St. Vincent and the Grenadines for its visitors.

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